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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/857,826	06/07/2001	Y. Tom Tang	PF-0637 USN	2342

7590 09/09/2003
Incyte Genomics Inc
Legal Department
3160 Porter Drive
Palo Alto, CA 94304

EXAMINER

TURNER, SHARON L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1647

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/857,826

Applicant(s)

TANG ET AL.

Examiner

Sharon L. Turner

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Election/Restrictions

Improper Markush

1. Prior to setting forth the Restriction Requirement, it is pointed out that applicants have presented instant claims in improper Markush format, see *Ex parte Markush*, 1925 C.D. 126, *In re Weber*, 198 USPQ 334 and MPEP 803.02 and 806.04.

"Since the decisions in *In re Weber* **, 198 USPQ 328 (CCPA 1978); and *In re Haas*, 198 USPQ 334 (CCPA 1978), it is improper for the Office to refuse to examine that which applicants regard as their invention, unless the subject matter in a claim lacks unity of invention, *In re Harnish*, 631 F.2d 716, 206 USPQ 300 (CCPA 1980); *Ex Parte Hozumi*, 3 USPQ2d 1059 (Bd. Pat. App. & Int. 1984). Broadly, unity of invention exists where compounds included within a Markush group (1) share a common utility and (2) share a substantial structural feature disclosed as being essential to that utility."

The claims are improperly set forth as the claims encompass multiple patentably distinct products and methods based upon separable patentably distinct peptides, polynucleotides, antibodies, agonists and antagonists as identified and claimed. The products fail to share the characteristics of a genus, i.e., a common utility and a substantial structural feature essential to the disclosed utility. Alternatively, the claims define multiple structurally distinct compounds as defined by their separate sequence identifiers that are capable of different use, with different modes of operation, different function and different effects. A reference against one of the claimed components or methods would not be a reference against the other. Therefore, the restriction will be set forth for each of the various groups, irrespective of the improper format of the claims, because the claims define inventions which are not proper species and are not linked by common defined structure.

2. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in response to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Groups I-XXVII, claim(s) 1-6, 12-15, and 19 in part, drawn to the extent of the elected peptide selected from the group consisting of the 1st to 27th special technical feature peptides of SEQ ID NO's:1-27, first appearing method of making the peptide using nucleic acids, vector and host cell, and method of using the elected peptide in a method of treating or preventing a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of NEUAP.

Groups XXVIII-LIV, claim(s) 7-8 in part, drawn to the second method of using the first 27 appearing special technical feature nucleic acids in a method of detection (including amplification), to the extent encoding the elected peptide selected from the group consisting of the 1st to 27th special technical feature peptides of SEQ ID NO's 1-27.

Groups LV-LXXXI, claim(s) 9-11 in part, drawn to the extent of the elected nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of the twenty eighth to fifty fourth appearing special technical feature polynucleotides of SEQ ID NO's 28-54.

Groups LXXXII-CVIII, claim(s) 16 in part, drawn to the extent of the 55th to 81st appearing special technical feature antibodies.

Groups CIX-CXXXV, claim(s) 17 in part, drawn to the extent of the 82nd to 108th appearing special technical feature agonists.

Groups CXXXVI-CLXII, claim(s) 18 and 20 in part, drawn to the extent of the 109th to 135th appearing special technical feature antagonists and method of using in a

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method for treating or preventing a disorder associated with increased expression or activity of NEUAP.

3. The inventions listed as Groups I-CLXII do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: the peptides, nucleic acids, antibodies, agonists, and antagonists differ in sequence structure, length, function, effects and capable use. The methods use different steps and different reagents corresponding to the distinct special technical features, and exhibit different effects, functions and outcomes.

4. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143). In order to be fully responsive, Applicant is required to elect a single group from designated groups I-CLXII as set forth above to which the claims will be restricted, even though the requirement is traversed.

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

6. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this general application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Papers relating to this application may be submitted to Technology Center 1600, Group 1640 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). Should

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applicant wish to FAX a response, the current FAX number for Group 1600 is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharon L. Turner, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703) 308-0056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Kunz, can be reached at (703) 308-4623.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sharon L. Turner".

Sharon L. Turner, Ph.D.
September 3, 2003